



# MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION

## SPARTAN SENIOR NEWSLETTER

February–March 2019

VOL. 40, NO. 5

Bruce Smith, MSURA Old Newsboys chair, and Vern Johnson, longtime supporter, relax a minute before the big day of collecting donations for Old Newsboys begins. Campus volunteers this year collected more than \$3,100. Money collected stays in the local area to purchase shoes and boots for more than 7,000 children.



## MSU Retirees volunteer to help Old Newsboys reach goals

In the early morning hours of Dec. 6, 2018, a hardy group of volunteers gathered to collect funds to support the Old Newsboys fund raising campaign. MSURA has participated in this event for several years. This year participants collected \$3,183.22. The Old Newsboys in total raised more than \$177,000 in this campaign exceeding their goal of \$174,000. New this year was the ability to send a donation via text.

MSURA participation made a difference in our community. A special thank you goes to Bruce Smith, who led the effort to organize MSURA volunteers, and Vern Johnson who has been a longtime supporter of Old Newsboys.

Volunteers included Jacqueline Babcock, Dave Brower, Jim Graves, Nikki Johnson, Vern Johnson, Patrick

Scheetz, Bruce Smith, Ron Smith, Allene Tucker, John Tucker and Rick Vogt.

The Old Newsboys Association of Greater Lansing has been operating since 1924, raising funds for footwear for children to attend school and stay healthy. Each December hundreds of volunteers stand on street corners and in front of businesses with collection jugs and a spoof newspaper to encourage people to donate whatever they can. 100 percent of donations on Sales Day in December goes toward shoes and boots for more than 7,000 children within a 25-mile radius of Lansing.

If you want more information or want to be involved, the website is: <http://www.lansingoldnewsboys.org>. Donations are accepted throughout the year and they are always looking for volunteers for their activities.

## MSURA has planned a field trip, and you're invited!

We are planning a one-day trip on Monday, April 29, and we think you'll love it. We'll first visit the **W.K. Kellogg Manor House**. This was the Cereal King's Summer Cottage, which was built in 1925-1926. The Kellogg Manor House is a classic example of Tudor Revival architecture overlooking Gull Lake. The interior of the house has bay windows with leaded glass, coffered ceiling, a hand carved oak staircase and renowned Rookwood tile.

Lunch will be served to us in the W.K. Kellogg Manor House after our tour. See the menu on page 4.

Then we travel to the **Gilmore Car Museum**, which is the largest auto museum in North America with over 180,000 square feet of exhibit space. The museum started in the early 1960s when Donald Gilmore began collecting vintage automobiles, including a 1920 Pierce Arrow, which is still on display. This is a self guided tour with benches along the way.

To read more and register for this trip, please see pages 4 and 5.



### ANNUAL LUNCHEON

Register now for the annual luncheon on Tuesday, May 7. It will be held at the University Club this year. See details on page 7. Please register by April 22.

## March to feature research in treatment of alzheimer's disease



Scott Counts

Dr. Scott Counts will review recent research on Alzheimer's disease and discuss new developments in the treatment of this life-altering illness at the March 11 membership meeting.

Counts is an associate professor of translational science and molecular medicine (primary) and family medicine (secondary) at the Grand Rapids campus. He earned his Ph.D. in neuroscience from Emory University.

**When** Monday, March 11, 2019

**Time** 2 p.m., refreshments at 1:30 p.m.

**Where** Community Room, MSUFCU Branch, Mt. Hope & Farm Lane, East Lansing

## Voice professor to share journey from stage to classroom

Melanie Helton, professor of voice and director of the MSU Opera Theatre, will discuss her professional journey from opera singer to MSU faculty member at the membership meeting on April 8.



Melanie Helton

Helton has been hailed by The New York Times for her "dark soprano that warms the ear." Her successes include the title roles in Lucrezia Borgia at the Caramoor International Music Festival and Aida with Opera Carolina.

She earned a Bachelor of Music degree with honors from Indiana University and a Master's degree in Music with honors from the University of Houston.

**When** Monday, April 8, 2019

**Time** 2 p.m., refreshments at 1:30 p.m.

**Where** Community Room, MSUFCU Branch, Mt. Hope & Farm Lane, East Lansing

## AARP Programs scheduled for 2019

### ■ GETTING TO KNOW APPS

**Tuesday, March 12, 2019, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

**Location: MSUFCU Mt Hope & Farm Lane branch**

Introductory class on how to use your mobile device (mobile phone, iPad, tablet, etc.) 1-hour sessions for each type of device. Apple devices (10 a.m.–11:15 a.m.) Android (11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.) Separate sessions with 15-minute break between sessions.

### ■ GOOD FORM WALKING

**Tuesday, April 9, 2019, 10 a.m. to Noon**

**Location: MSUFCU Mt Hope & Farm Lane branch**

AARP in conjunction with Playmakers offers Good Form Walking coaching. Good Form Walking is a method to help walkers of all ages and abilities move forward more efficiently and healthier.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Rick Vogt**

As we begin 2019, the MSU Retirees Association Board has decided to do some new things based upon the survey results. We have organized a bus tour to Kellogg Manor and the Gilmore Auto Museum. Details are included in the newsletter. Seating is limited, so get your RSVP in early. We are looking at other events retirees said they would be interested in as well.

Please note that this year's annual lunch meeting will be **TUESDAY, May 7, 2019**, at the **UNIVERSITY CLUB**. Come join us and bring a friend.

Thank you to the volunteers for your time and talents and sharing them with the retirees. Also thanks to our underwriters' contributions, which allow us to avoid having membership fees.

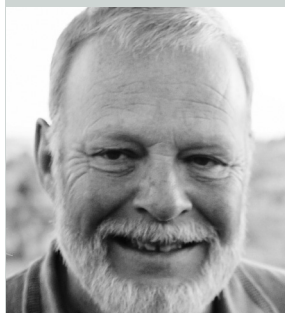
Special thank you to the MSURA Board and Cheryl Pell for jumping in and getting the January newsletter out and taking care of things while I was unexpectedly in the hospital. Team MSURA, thank you, I very much appreciate it.

Have a great 2019. Go Green!

### Retirement is Work!

By Tom and Kevin Cocozzoli





BY STAN HECKER



## New 1855 building provides lovely gateway to campus

The shiny new building southwest of the Harrison-Kalamazoo intersection catches the eye. Especially in the evening, the light sculpture “Juniper” heralds the future with programmable lights. It also honors history by form and name (after the red cedar, *Juniperus Virginiana*). It’s a lovely new gateway to MSU.

Two gateways, actually. First, the office building houses a front door for much of Spartan student life and public events. Athletics tickets, dining tickets and plans, student housing, and student jobs are all available here. Call this the “1855 Place offices.” Second, the 1855 Place offices front some fresh concepts in University housing,

**“For students and many visitors, we have a one-stop service center. Housing, meals, jobs, it’s all here. Plus athletic tickets.** Bill Whitbeck, RHS Planning and Projects Office

through a cluster of new buildings where the mid-fifties University

Village once stood. Call this the “1855 Place Residences.”

The 1855 Place offices house the central offices of the Athletics Department and Residential and Hospitality Services. The Athletics headquarters has left Jenison Fieldhouse behind, and occupies the fourth floor of the building. Residential and Hospitality Services (RHS) has consolidated from offices all across campus to the first, second, and third floors of the new building. More than 200 staff — across both departments — now occupy the offices and related facilities in the 100,000 square foot building.

RHS moved six discrete departments to

the 1855 Place offices: Business and Finance, Culinary Services, Human Resources & Payroll, Information Services, Planning & Projects and the Residence Education and Housing Services.

The visiting retiree might enter the south end of the 1855 Place offices, from the convenient faculty-staff parking ramp fifty yards south of the office building. Watch carefully: the energy efficient lighting in the ramp follows traffic and pedestrians. The office building, dedicated in October, 2018, is in the process for Silver certification under USGBC LEED standards, which includes stringent energy conservation requirements.

First impressions are driven by the soaring Hall of Champions celebration of Spartan athletics champions throughout University history. In addition to the service desks and offices along the hallway, you can follow the larger history of the university in captioned photographs.

A retiree visiting the building hit a trifecta of sorts in one visit recently. He checked at the Athletics Tickets desk about an elevator pass for the upcoming football game, inquired about retiree discounts for campus dining (lost in the midst of time, sadly!) and reconnected with other retirees and staff in the Starbucks coffee shop. All this on the first floor, along the “main street” open corridor. He missed two stops: the Spartan Spirit Shop and Sparty’s Market.

The architecture is functional and contemporary, bright and open. Throughout the

Please see 1855 BUILDING on page 4

## 1855 BUILDING, continued from page 3

building, large windows eliminate most of the need for lighting in the first-floor public spaces, especially the first half of the business day. Upstairs offices are generally open plan, welcoming daylight for most offices at least half the day. Conference rooms, utility rooms, elevators, and restrooms occupy the core of the building. There are few “false ceilings” as utility-distribution spaces are open above each floor. Easy access to cable trays and ductwork ease maintenance and open up air circulation.

**B**ill Whitbeck, RHS Planning and Projects office, summed up the substantial benefits of consolidating RHS offices from two perspectives, stressing customer service first.

“For students and many visitors, we have a one-stop service center,” he said. “Housing, meals, jobs, it’s all here. Plus athletic tickets.”

And he also stressed the efficiencies of sensible centralization for RHS.

“We consolidated six or eight departments into this building; we were in eight different buildings,” he said. “Being here is invaluable in face-to-face meetings. I only have to go through these offices, or just one floor to meet with most anybody I work with regularly.”

The 1855 Place Residences west of the office building include apartments and townhouse-style accommodations; there are 429 total units for approximately 1,200 residents, including 189 family apartments. Fully furnished, the residences include fully-paid utilities, air-conditioning, WiFi, an on-site fitness facility, a community-service center, green space, and playgrounds.

The complex is a bid to keep MSU competitive with surrounding apartment complexes, with the advantage of on-campus amenities and services.

Sparty’s Market at the very north end of the building serves visitors needing small-market items, but is a convenience for students and families living in the 1855 Place Residences.

The store features prepared foods and grill items, pre-packaged and self-serve bulk foods, a bakery station with coffee and fountain drinks, fresh fruits and vegetables, a dairy case, deli sandwiches, household items and more.

Sparty’s Grill, located within the market, serves hot breakfast dishes; pub fare; fresh-roasted grill items such as vegetables and chicken; and comfort food options. The deli counter offers breakfast bowls, soup, sandwiches and pizza by the slice.

## Join us for W.K. Kellogg Manor House tour, visit to Gilmore Museum on April 29

### TRIP INCLUDES:

- Round trip transportation by Motorcoach
- Tour of the W. K. Kellogg Manor House
- Lunch at the W. K. Kellogg Manor House  
*Tentative Menu:* Butternut squash bisque soup, stuffed chicken breast with smoked ham, asparagus, provolone cheese and soft lemon sauce, roasted red skin potatoes, and flourless chocolate cake with raspberry coulis, served with your choice of iced or hot tea, coffee, water with lemon.
- Tour of the Gilmore Car Museum

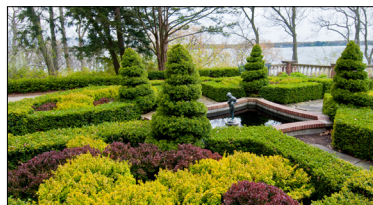
**COST:** \$80

Mail your check and reservation form (found on page 5) to:

**Midwest Tours, Attn: Sharon,**

**1885 Wilderness Drive, DeWitt, MI 48820-7991**

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATION:** March 1, 2019



### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

**Monday, April 29, 2019**

**8:15 a.m.**

Motorcoach arrives Meijer on Lake Lansing Road (by Light Post K)

**8:30 a.m.**

Motorcoach departs Meijer on Lake Lansing Road  
Rest area stop

**10 a.m.**

Arrive W.K. Kellogg Manor House  
Lunch at W.K. Kellogg Manor House

**1:15 p.m.**

Motorcoach departs for Gilmore Car Museum

**4 p.m.**

Motorcoach departs for home  
Rest area stop

**6 p.m.**

Return to Meijer on Lake Lansing Road (depending on traffic, weather)

### THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO:

Wear comfortable clothing and shoes.

Bring money for any items you may wish to purchase.

Bring your camera.

Please fill out and return the following reservation form with your check to confirm your trip.

# MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION TRIP

W. K. Kellogg Manor House and Gilmore Car Museum – Monday, April 29, 2019  
Make check payable to Midwest Tours. Fill out this form and return with check to  
Midwest Tours, 1885 Wilderness Drive, DeWitt, MI 48820-7991

Name (As Appears on Driver's License) First		Last	
Preferred Name		Date of Birth (month/day/year)	
Address (As Appears on Driver's License)			
City	State	(Long) ZIP Code	-
Telephone (Home)		(Cell)	
Email Address		Special Needs	
Medical condition we should be aware of			
Traveling with (All in your group, please)			
<b>Emergency contact person:</b> (Not traveling with you)			
Name		Relationship	
Daytime Number		Evening Number	

## Trip Cancellation Policy

If a trip is canceled 61 days or more in advance of departure date, customer will receive a full refund of any payments made.

If a trip is canceled 60 days to 33 days in advance of departure, a 10% charge is assessed.

If a trip is canceled 32 days or less in advance of the departure date, no refund will be assessed.

**I have read, understand and agree to the above.**

Signature	Date
Printed or Typed Name	

## Waiver

Midwest Tours, MSU Retiree Association, and Sharon Hetrick shall not become liable for any personal injury, property damage, accident, delay, inconvenience, change in itinerary or other irregularity which may occur due to (1) wrongful, negligent or arbitrary acts or omissions on the part of the Suppliers, their employees or others not under the direct control of Midwest Tours, MSU Retiree Association, and Sharon Hetrick (2) defects or failures of any conveyance, equipment or instrumentality under the control of the Suppliers, and (3) but not limited to, Acts of God, fire, riots, strikes, thefts, pilferage, epidemics, quarantines or dangers incidents to the sea, land and air.

The Client agrees to hold Midwest Tours, MSU Retiree Association, and Sharon Hetrick blameless in making the arrangements on his/her behalf, provided same shall be made through generally acceptable suppliers at the time of engagement, and further agrees that restitution or damages, if any are claimed, shall be sought directly from the suppliers. The Client also agrees to the terms and conditions of the tour, or services as set forth in the brochures and/or circular of the Suppliers.

I have read, understand and agree to the above.

Signature	Date
Printed or Typed Name	

## Disclaimer for cars being left at Meijer on Lake Lansing Road

If you are leaving your car, I need to have you fill out the following:

While parked at Meijer on Lake Lansing Road on April 29, 2019, for the MSU Retirees/Midwest Tours W. K. Kellogg Manor House and Gilmore Car Museum, I understand Midwest Tours, MSU Retirees Association, and Sharon Hetrick, Jeff Hetrick and Meijer are not liable for my car and the contents therein.

Signature	Date
Printed or Typed Name	

License Plate #	Make, Model, Color and Year of Car
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**For Midwest Tours Use Only: Check Number** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date Received** \_\_\_\_\_ **Amount** \_\_\_\_\_

# Financial seminar set for April 3

Back by popular demand! The MSU Retirees Association has invited Straight-Line to lead a 2-hour discussion on topics that include a review of financial markets and investment management. Please join our speakers at MSU Federal Credit Union's Farm Lane branch on **Wednesday, April 3 at 1:30 p.m.** for excellent, up-to-date information and an opportunity to get answers to your questions.



**When** Wednesday, April 3, 2019

**Time** 1:30 p.m.

**Where** Community Room, MSUFCU Branch, Mt. Hope & Farm Lane, East Lansing



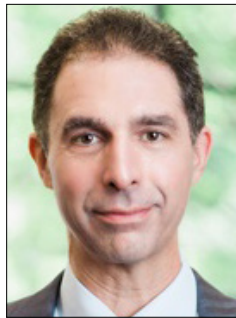
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StraightLine



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Vice President,  
StraightLine



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Investment Strategist, Skyview



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Investment Officer, Skyview



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## Check out the MSURA Facebook page and share your story



Are you involved in an interesting endeavor? MSURA wants to hear from you! Send us photos and/or a paragraph of your involvement and we'll add them to the MSURA Facebook page. View all MSURA posts and photos at <https://www.facebook.com/MSURetirees>.

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# MSURA ANNUAL LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

TUESDAY, May 7, 2019  
UNIVERSITY CLUB (Note new location)  
Registration begins 11:30, Lunch begins 12:00 noon

Name \_\_\_\_\_

- Meal Choice**     Combo Entrée Flank Steak & Herb Roasted Salmon  
                       Grilled Vegetable Kabobs (Gluten Free, Vegan, Vegetarian)

**Significant Other/Spouse Name** \_\_\_\_\_

- Meal Choice**     Combo Entrée Flank Steak & Herb Roasted Salmon  
                       Grilled Vegetable Kabobs (Gluten Free, Vegan, Vegetarian)

**Both choices come with rolls, salad, beverage and vanilla ice cream.**

**Cost per person: \$25 — includes cost of the luncheon, tip and tax.**

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ reservation(s).**

**Combo Entrée** is served with chef's selection of vegetable and potato or rice.

**Grilled Vegetable Kabobs** is served with tomato pepper lime sauce and brown rice2aa

**If a dietary supplement is needed, please call Gale Gower at (517) 332-0194 before April 22.**

**The location of the luncheon has changed to the University Club Ballroom on the lower level. An elevator is available.**

**Mail this form before April 22 with check payable to MSU Retirees Association to:**

**Dave Brower, MSURA Treasurer**

**Suite 22 Nisbet Building, MSU**

**1407 S. Harrison Ave.**

**East Lansing, MI 48823**





**Suite 22 Nisbet Bldg. MSU  
1407 S. Harrison Road  
East Lansing, MI 48823-5239**



## Lessons on Investing – Did you know?

StraightLine is a fiduciary that was chosen by MSU to provide professional advice and management to both employees and retirees at MSU. Our experienced advisors and dedicated research staff allows us to offer unbiased information to the MSU faithful. We present the following for your review:

### Straight to the Point

**Market Update** - Continued volatility and larger intraday swings led to another tough month for equities in December with domestic markets leading the way lower. Bonds had a small rally and ended the year flat after being down over 2% at different points during the year. Overall, 2018 was a difficult year for markets with the vast majority of global stock, bond and commodity markets ending in the red in varying degrees. We enter 2019 with more volatility and lower corporate expectations as evidenced by Apple's recent miss in forecasted earnings. I know making \$85B a quarter isn't what it used to be. Additionally, the China trade dilemma, the recent mixed signals from the Fed and lower corporate earnings estimates carry our current reality.

**Investment Implications** - As we stated in our most recent note, in these market disruptions the easiest thing to do is to do the wrong thing; react emotionally. We are experiencing a slowdown, much like we've seen at points during this long expansion and bull market. The battle is now between a recession and if we'll soon pull out of this funk. While this pullback feels more severe, the overall economy doesn't show typical signs that it's headed for a recession. For now we are recommending a mix of offense and defense. The offense—reallocate to your normal equity levels with quality, and the defense—do not try to time and guess the turnaround point. Maintain diversification and don't panic. Stay cautious but be proactive as well.

Our quarterly newsletter (StraightTalk) walks through the macro information that we are utilizing in respect to our near term strategy. Please contact us if you are interested in receiving these newsletters or discussing our macroeconomic views.

### From StraightLine Higher Education Services



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